

CITY OF BLUE RIDGE
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
JUNE 2, 2020

THE BLUE RIDGE CITY COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION AT 7:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2020 AT THE BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY CENTER, LOCATED AT 200 W. TILTON, BLUE RIDGE, TEXAS 75424 AT 7:00 P.M. WITH THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR ACTION.

1. Mayor Williams called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and called roll with the following members present, Mayor Rhonda Williams, Christina Porath, Keith Chitwood, Amber Wood, and Allen Cunnyngnam.
2. City Secretary Edie Sims offered the prayer and lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the American and Texas Flags.
3. Announcements relating to items of public interest
No items were announced
4. Public Comment
No one signed up or spoke at this time.
5. Consent Agenda: a) Discuss, approve or disapprove the minutes from Regular Session held May 5, 2020; b) Public Works Update; c) City Financial Report; d) Fire Department Report; and e) Animal Control Report
Mayor Williams announced the Fire Department Report was not submitted for action. Christina Porath motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with Amber Wood seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Swear in elected Council members and reorganize Council by nominating and electing a Mayor Pro-Tem for May 2020 – May 2021
The ceremony of swearing in was performed by City Secretary Edie Sims who swore in elected Council members including Mayor Rhonda Williams, Christina Porath, Keith Chitwood and Allen Cunnyngnam.
Amber Wood nominated and motioned Christina Porath to serve as Mayor Pro-Tem with Allen Cunnyngnam seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Consider, discuss and act upon Resolution 2020-0602-001 regarding the Mayor's spending limitations for year May 2020 – May 2021
Amber Wood motioned to approve the Resolution as presented with Keith Chitwood seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
8. Consider, discuss and act upon Resolution #2020-0602-002 authorizing the award of Professional Service Provider Contract for the 2020 Downtown Revitalization Program through the Texas Community Development Block Grant Fund
Christina Porath motioned to designate Grantworks, Inc as the administrative service provider for the 2020 Downtown Revitalization Program through the Texas Community Development Fund application and project implementation with Amber Wood seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Consider, discuss and act a Concept Plan by Luther Kennon to create an RV Park area on his property located in the Northwest Corner of Justin Lane in the Westend Addition
 Council discussed the project at length. Christina Porath motioned not to approve creating an RV Park with Amber Wood seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
10. Consider, discuss and act upon a variance request from Cody Cogdill, 411 W FM 545, for a rear setback from 15' requirement to a 10' setback for a proposed metal shop
 After reviewing the information, Christina Porath motioned approve the variance request with Keith Chitwood seconding the motion. Council did not finalize the motion with a vote. Christina Porath then amended her motion to add an allowance of one year of the permit to remove the first shop/storage building with Amber Wood seconding the last motion. Motion carried unanimously.
11. Consider, discuss and act upon receiving a letter petitioning to deannex two parcels of land from the City of Blue Ridge and adopting Ordinance #2020-0602-001 deannexing two parcels of land owned by First Baptist Church of Blue Ridge, Inc
 After discussing the pros and cons of deannexation, Christina Porath motioned to deny the request for deannexation due to lack of information from the governing body of the church. Amber Wood seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
12. Consider, discuss and act upon accepting a section of water line from Frognot Water Supply Corporation along County Road 504, incorporating this line into the City of Blue Ridge's CCN
 The new Blue Ridge Elementary School currently has access to water via Frognot Water Supply; however Frognot Water Supply, now Frognot Special Utility District, preferred to donate this section of waterline to the City as they only have a 2" line and the school requires an 8" line to be installed. The City is already serving all water to the School District and it makes sense to continue with the same utility.
 Amber Wood motioned to accept the water line donation with Keith Chitwood seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
13. Receive presentation from Superintendent Matt Kimball regarding the soon new Elementary School and consider, discuss and act upon financing options for a water line installation to support the Elementary School and other area water needs
 Superintendent Matt Kimball presented a construction update of the new Ag Barn and new Elementary School. The ISD projects are coming along well. The Ag Barn is expected to be completed by late July 2020. The new Elementary School is expected to have a completion date in August 2021. There will be a groundbreaking ceremony on June 15, 2020 at 5pm.
 The water line was discussed in Item 12, which was donated from Frognot Water Supply to the City. Due to the need for the Elementary School, the City will be contracting to have an 8" water line installed. This line will be approximately 700' in length and will be looped into the existing system surrounding the High School and Middle School property. Three concrete driveways will be cut where the line can be placed and will be backfilled with concrete. The approximate price is \$35,000. The contractor is willing to allow the City to pay in increments and the price is quite doable for the project. Christina Porath motioned to approve the water line project not to exceed \$45,000 with Amber Wood seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
14. Consider, discuss and act upon a sewer issue at 108 N Morrow where a sewer backup proved the sewage had been going into a septic tank from many years ago and was never connected to the City's sewer system and any matters related to this issue
 Council was informed of the sewer issues at 108 N Morrow and how the City and property owner found the sewage not entering the City's main sewer line. During the course of the repairs and the nature of the issue, the Public Works created a connection into the City's

sewer main at no charge to the property owner. Ms. Chellia Tallant further stated she has paid for sewer services for the past 20 years, but it was not known to her nor the City that her sewage was not going into the City's sewer lines. Ms. Tallant stated she was not wanting a large sum of money, but requested the City not charge for her sewer for one year. There was damage to her bathroom floor but not enough to cause an insurance claim. Christina Porath motioned to remove sewer charges from June 2020 – June 2021 with Amber Wood seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

15. Consider, discuss and act upon a budget amendment Ordinance to transfer funds from within the General Tax Fund Account Capital Outlay to pay off the balance of the new Public Works vehicle

Funds were found in the Capital Outlay line item in the General Tax Fund while researching for budgetary items by Assistant Joni Lawrence. Christina Porath motioned to approve the Ordinance as presented with Amber Wood seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

16. Consider, discuss and act upon donated land and use for Open Spaces

Councilman Keith Chitwood requested this item for discussion. Currently a Texas Parks and Wildlife grant is being pursued to utilize the donated land for a lake and trails. There may be other options to enhance the park, but the initial grant will begin construction. We are waiting for the grant application time to open to apply. No action taken by Council at this time.

17. Discussion of placing items on future agendas

No one had any items for future agendas.

18. Adjournment. Christina Porath motioned to adjourn with Allen Cunyngnam seconding the motion. Council adjourned at 7:59pm.

APPROVED:



Rhonda Williams, Mayor

ATTEST:


Edie Sims, City Secretary